

Acquisition Reform Success Story

Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle (EELV)

Program Manager: Col McKinney
DAC: SMC/CC
Contractor: Alliant Techsystems
Boeing
Lockheed Martin
McDonnell Douglas
Contractor PM: Various

Program Description

The Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle Program (EELV) is a new program to replace the current space launch vehicle fleet (Titan II, Delta II, Atlas II, and Titan IV) with a more affordable family of launch vehicles evolved from current expendable systems.

How Streamlining Made a Difference

The EELV program was designated an Air Force Lead Program in November 1994. It was directed to form an Integrated Product Team (IPT) to gather innovative acquisition approaches to consider for EELV application. The IPT reviewed 111 approaches, including several from industry, and incorporated most of these in the acquisition strategy. Similar to the Space Based Infrared Radars program, the EELV program developed a Single Acquisition and Management Plan (SAMP) which will allow oversight streamlining and shorten the schedule. Also, with the IPT organization approach, the program office staff remains under 50 people when similar program offices have been as large as 200 people.

Bottom Line: EELV is implementing acquisition reform and allowing the contractors to come up with innovative solution to make space launch more affordable (doing it **better**), reducing time for government evaluations of proposal and data (doing it **faster**), and reducing the burden of massive government oversight inherent in our old ways of doing business (doing it **cheaper**).